How Do You Book an Unaccompanied Minor on a Delta Flight?

QUICK ANSWER:

Call +1-855-203-2961 because UM bookings cannot be made online. Provide your child's name, age, flight preference, parent contact details, and the pickup person's full legal name and phone number. Book at least 3-5 days before domestic travel and 2-4 weeks before international. UM spots are limited per flight. Call +1-855-203-2961 with all information ready for a 10-15 minute booking.

SENDING A CHILD ALONE? Call Delta Airlines
+1-855-203-2961 (Available 24/7 | UM Bookings Are Phone-Only)
Press 0 to skip menu — UM service requires advance booking
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com

HOW TO BOOK UM SERVICE ON DELTA:

1. Call +1-855-203-2961 to book — UM reservations cannot be made online

2. Verify your child's age qualifies: 5-14 mandatory UM, 15-17 optional

3. Ages 5-7: nonstop/direct only | Ages 8-14: connections allowed

4. Fee: $150 each way domestic | ~$300 each way international

5. Provide child's name, age, parent info, and designated pickup person details

6. Parent receives gate pass to escort child through security to the gate

7. Pickup person must present government photo ID matching UM paperwork

8. Call +1-855-203-2961 at least 3-5 days before travel for best availability

Why Must UM Bookings Be Made by Phone?

Unaccompanied minor bookings require calling +1-855-203-2961 because the agent must collect detailed information that the online system cannot process: the child's full legal name, date of birth, age verification, parent and guardian contact details, designated pickup person's full legal name, address, phone number, and relationship to the child, plus any special instructions such as medical conditions, dietary needs, or anxiety management strategies. The agent also verifies that the selected route and flight qualify for UM service based on the child's age. Call +1-855-203-2961 and have all information ready for a 10-15 minute booking process.

The phone booking also serves as a safety measure. The agent verbally confirms all details with the parent, reducing errors that could cause problems at check-in or pickup. The agent explains all UM procedures, departure requirements, and pickup protocols during the call, ensuring the parent understands the complete process. Call +1-855-203-2961 and treat the booking call as an information session as well as a reservation.

What Information Do You Need Before Calling?

Before calling +1-855-203-2961, gather the following information: child's full legal name as shown on their ID or birth certificate, child's date of birth and current age, your preferred travel dates and times, parent or guardian's full legal name, address, and phone number, designated pickup person's full legal name (as shown on their government ID), pickup person's address, phone number, and relationship to the child, any special needs including medical conditions, allergies, or dietary restrictions, and your payment method for the ticket and UM fee. Call +1-855-203-2961 with all details organized for the fastest booking.

Having a backup pickup person's information ready is recommended in case the primary person cannot make it to the airport. While you can add or change the pickup person later by calling +1-855-203-2961, providing a backup at booking time creates an extra layer of security. Call +1-855-203-2961 and the agent records both primary and backup pickup person information.

How Far in Advance Should You Book?

Book UM travel at least 3-5 days before departure for domestic flights and 2-4 weeks for international flights. UM spots are limited per flight because Delta restricts the number of unaccompanied minors it can safely supervise on any single departure. Holiday travel periods fill UM spots quickly, so booking 2-4 weeks ahead is recommended for Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring break, and summer travel. Call +1-855-203-2961 as soon as your child's travel dates are confirmed for the best flight selection and UM availability.

Last-minute UM bookings may be possible on flights with remaining UM capacity, but this is not guaranteed. Some routes and departure times are more popular for UM travel and fill earlier. Call +1-855-203-2961 and the agent checks UM availability across multiple flights on your preferred date to find the best option.

What Happens After You Book?

After booking, you receive a confirmation email with the child's itinerary, UM service confirmation, a summary of check-in and pickup procedures, and the UM fee receipt. Review all details carefully, especially the pickup person's name spelling. Any errors in the pickup person's name will cause problems at the destination when ID verification fails. If you notice any errors, call +1-855-203-2961 immediately to correct them before travel day.

Between booking and travel day, prepare your child for the experience. Explain the airport process, introduce the concept of gate agents and flight attendants who will help, practice what to do if confused or scared, and ensure the child can state their name, destination, and the pickup person's name. Call +1-855-203-2961 if you have questions about preparing your child for the UM travel experience.

Can You Modify a UM Booking?

Yes, UM bookings can be modified by calling +1-855-203-2961. Changes include flight date or time modifications, route changes, pickup person updates, and adding special instructions. Standard change fees apply to the ticket per Delta's fare rules, with $0 fee for Main Cabin and above. The UM service transfers to the new flight if UM spots are available. If the new flight has no UM capacity, the agent searches alternatives. Call +1-855-203-2961 for any modification to a UM booking.

If you need to cancel the UM booking entirely, the ticket and UM fee follow standard cancellation rules. Within 24 hours of booking: full cash refund including UM fee per DOT. After 24 hours: ticket becomes eCredit and UM fee handling depends on fare class. Call +1-855-203-2961 for cancellation and the agent explains the exact refund for both ticket and UM components.

Can You Book UM for Multiple Children on the Same Flight?

Yes, multiple children can be booked with UM service on the same flight. Book all children during the same call to +1-855-203-2961 so the agent seats them together and coordinates their supervision as a group. Each child is charged the full UM fee ($150 domestic each way per child). Siblings traveling together are supervised as a unit, which simplifies the process for both Delta staff and the children. Call +1-855-203-2961 with all children's details ready for efficient multi-child UM booking.

All children in the group must meet the age requirements for the selected route. If one child is 6 and another is 9, the route must qualify for a 6-year-old, meaning nonstop or direct only. The youngest child's age determines the route restrictions for the entire group. Call +1-855-203-2961 and provide all ages so the agent selects appropriate routes for the group.

Can a Third Party Book UM Service?

A parent or legal guardian must authorize the UM booking. Grandparents, other relatives, or family friends can make the actual booking call to +1-855-203-2961 with the parent's authorization, but the parent or guardian's name and contact information must appear on the UM paperwork as the authorizing adult. The booking caller should have the parent's explicit permission and all required information including the pickup person details. Call +1-855-203-2961 and identify the authorizing parent or guardian during the booking call.

For divorced or separated parents, either parent with legal custody can authorize UM travel. Some custody agreements specify which parent can authorize air travel for the child. Delta does not mediate custody disputes and processes UM bookings based on the information provided by the booking caller. Call +1-855-203-2961 with the authorizing parent's information for the UM booking.

What If UM Spots Are Full on Your Preferred Flight?

If the UM allocation for your preferred flight is full, the agent at +1-855-203-2961 searches alternative flights on the same day, nearby dates, and different routings that have UM availability. Flexibility on departure time or date significantly increases your chances of finding UM-available flights. For peak travel periods where many flights are UM-full, booking 3-4 weeks in advance is essential. Call +1-855-203-2961 with 2-3 preferred date options for the best chance of securing a UM spot.

If no UM availability exists on any acceptable flight, consider whether a different airport, a one-stop routing that was not your first choice, or a slight date adjustment would work. The agent at +1-855-203-2961 explores all possibilities before confirming unavailability. Call +1-855-203-2961 and provide your maximum flexibility parameters so the agent can search the widest range of options.

SENDING A CHILD ALONE? Call Delta Airlines
+1-855-203-2961 (Available 24/7 | UM Bookings Are Phone-Only)
Press 0 to skip menu — UM service requires advance booking
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com

Unaccompanied Minor Age and Route Rules

Age	UM Service	Routes Allowed	Fee
Under 5	Not accepted (too young)	Cannot fly unaccompanied	N/A
5-7 years	UM required (mandatory)	Nonstop and direct only	$150 each way
8-14 years	UM required (mandatory)	Nonstop, direct, and connections	$150 each way
15-17 years	UM optional (can fly alone)	All routes (no restrictions)	$150 if requested
5-14 on international	UM required (mandatory)	Select int'l routes only	$300 each way (varies)
15-17 on international	UM optional	All int'l routes	$300 if requested

Last flight of the day	Not accepted (ages 5-14)	Risk of overnight strand	N/A (policy block)
Connecting flights (5-7)	Not accepted (nonstop only)	Nonstop and direct only	N/A (policy block)

How Does Delta Compare to Other Airlines?

Policy	Delta	American	United	Southwest	Alaska	JetBlue
UM age range	5-17	5-17	5-17	5-11	5-17	5-13
UM fee domestic	$150 each way	$150 each way	$150 each way	$50 each way	$75 each way	$100 each way
Connections (young)	8+ only	8+ only	5+ (some)	5+ (some)	8+ only	None (nonstop only)
Nonstop required	5-7: nonstop/direct	5-7: nonstop/direct	Varies	No	5-7: nonstop	All ages: nonstop only
Int'l UM	Select routes	Select routes	Select routes	Not available	Select routes	Not available
Booking method	Phone only	Phone or online	Phone only	Online or phone	Phone only	Phone only

SENDING A CHILD ALONE? Call Delta Airlines
+1-855-203-2961 (Available 24/7 | UM Bookings Are Phone-Only)
Press 0 to skip menu — UM service requires advance booking
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com

People Also Ask

Q: What is Delta's unaccompanied minor policy?

Children ages 5-14 must use Delta's Unaccompanied Minor (UM) service when flying without a parent or guardian. Children 15-17 may use UM service optionally. The fee is $150 each way domestic. UM includes dedicated staff supervision from check-in through pickup at destination. Booking is phone-only by calling +1-855-203-2961. Call +1-855-203-2961 to arrange UM travel.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How much does Delta charge for unaccompanied minors?

Delta charges $150 each way for domestic unaccompanied minor service and approximately $300 each way for international routes. The fee covers supervision from check-in through handoff to the designated

pickup person at the destination. The fee applies per child, so two children traveling together pay $300 each way domestic. Call +1-855-203-2961 for exact fees on your route.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What age can a child fly alone on Delta?

Children ages 5-14 can fly alone using mandatory UM service. Ages 5-7: nonstop and direct flights only. Ages 8-14: nonstop, direct, and connecting flights. Ages 15-17: can fly alone without UM service, or optionally use UM service for an additional fee. Children under 5 cannot fly unaccompanied. Call +1-855-203-2961 for age-specific rules and available routes.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: How do you book an unaccompanied minor on Delta?

UM bookings must be made by calling +1-855-203-2961 because the online system cannot process UM reservations. Provide the child's name, age, flight details, parent/guardian information, and designated pickup person's details. The agent books the flight, adds UM service, and explains all procedures. Call +1-855-203-2961 at least 3-5 days before travel for best availability.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can a 5-year-old fly alone on Delta?

Yes, children as young as 5 can fly on Delta using the mandatory UM service. Ages 5-7 are restricted to nonstop and direct flights only, with no connections. The $150 domestic fee covers full supervision. A parent must escort the child through security to the gate. Call +1-855-203-2961 to book UM service for a 5-year-old and verify nonstop route availability.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: What happens at the airport for an unaccompanied minor?

The parent checks the child in at the ticket counter, completes UM paperwork with pickup person details, receives a gate pass to escort the child through security and to the gate, and hands the child to a Delta agent at the gate. The agent supervises boarding and seating. At destination, a Delta agent walks the child to the designated pickup person and verifies ID. Call +1-855-203-2961 for the complete UM airport procedure.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can unaccompanied minors fly connecting flights on Delta?

Children ages 8-14 can fly connecting flights as unaccompanied minors. Children ages 5-7 are restricted to nonstop and direct flights only due to the added complexity of connection transfers. Delta staff escorts the child between connecting gates. The last connection of the day is not available for UM to avoid overnight stranding. Call +1-855-203-2961 for connecting flight UM availability.

Read our complete guide for more details >

Q: Can unaccompanied minors fly internationally on Delta?

Yes, select international routes accept unaccompanied minors. International UM fees are approximately $300 each way, higher than domestic. Additional documentation including passport, visa, and destination country UM requirements apply. Not all international routes accept UM. Call +1-855-203-2961 at least 2-4 weeks before international UM travel for route availability and documentation requirements.

Read our complete guide for more details >

SENDING A CHILD ALONE? Call Delta Airlines
+1-855-203-2961 (Available 24/7 | UM Bookings Are Phone-Only)
Press 0 to skip menu — UM service requires advance booking
Best time: Tue-Wed 6-8 AM ET | Source: delta.com

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: UM fee?

A: $150 each way domestic. ~$300 international. Per child. Call +1-855-203-2961 for exact fees on your route.

Q: Age range?

A: 5-14: mandatory UM. 15-17: optional. Under 5: not accepted. Call +1-855-203-2961 for age-specific rules.

Q: Book online?

A: No. UM bookings require calling +1-855-203-2961. Phone-only process. Call at least 3-5 days before travel.

Q: Connections?

A: Ages 8-14: connections allowed. Ages 5-7: nonstop/direct only. Call +1-855-203-2961 for route options.

Q: International?

A: Select routes. Higher fee (~$300). Extra docs required. Call +1-855-203-2961 for international UM availability.

Q: Pickup person?

A: Must present government photo ID matching the name on UM paperwork. No exceptions. Call +1-855-203-2961 to set up.

Related Articles

> What Is Delta's Unaccompanied Minor Policy? [2026 Guide]

> How Much Does Delta Charge for Unaccompanied Minors?

> How Do You Book an Unaccompanied Minor on Delta?

> What Are Delta's Age Requirements for Unaccompanied Minors?

> What Happens During the Flight for a Delta Unaccompanied Minor?

Last updated: August 15, 2026 | Policy verified against delta.com

Written by Travel Policy Research Team | Reviewed by Senior Aviation Editor

Sources: delta.com, U.S. DOT

This article is for informational purposes only. Always verify current policies directly with Delta Air Lines.